

Dublin Oct. 15. 1864

Dear Mrs Chapman - Excepting a
short note from you enclosing the card
of F. Douglass (which has been
greatly admired for which I thank you)
I have heard nothing of or from your father
for some long - until a paragraph in
a late Liberator announced the arrival
of Michael in this family in Boston.
What a pleasure then will be to you & to
all your sisters - and what a reception
he will get from all who appreciate
the talents & labours he has devoted to
the Federal cause. My interest in the
progress of the war has always been
unabated, but I never before felt how
little can be done without fresh oppor-
tunities or fresh abatement to stone the
tide of prejudice & ignorance which
sweep the vast majority of the newspa-
per reading public before it in this country.
- The Times is the great evil & and
misapprehension of 19/10 the day I must talk to.

Ms. A. 9. 2. 31. 21

There is only one pro-Northern paper in
Ireland - there are many more in
England - but the influence of the Times
seem to swamp them all, except in
the education of the exceptionally ~~able~~
~~and~~ thoughtful portion of the educated
classes. In England on the other hand
the Pro-Slavery agitators could not
hold a public meeting - whereas in Ireland
the Pro-Slavery could do as they pleased in
any gathering of the lower classes.

Most of the recent news is favor-
able to the North. But the very best
news speaks of Sherman having
been defeated by Early & of nothing
having been lately heard from Sherman.

I now here hope the North may
succeed in establishing their independence
on the avowedly selfish grounds that
they fear if the Union be restored the
American people instead of watching
each other will turn their power against

us. While others fear that the Northern
States can only succeed in subduing & keeping
the South at the cost of their own liberties
— for if the South is to be ruled despo-
tically, or the Union be if ruled unwhol-
lously, except by the aid of a powerful
standing army, which would be dangerous
to the liberties of the whole Union? I
only mention these matters to show
how people talk. I am no prophet my-
self, and must only be content to
stand by.

I have long wished that Lincoln
might be the next President — I hoped
for this more than a year ago, before
there was any division of opinion on
the subject among the abolitionists. For
I thought it would be a dangerous ex-
periment to have over the government
at such a crisis to one whose I then
considered hands. Lincoln has not
gone as far as he has as I could wish, but

under present circumstances I see
no fitter man for the place. I hope
Carrner whom I know very well is
a warm advocate of the good sense
& statesman like qualities of President
Lincoln and regards his success at
the impending election as essential
to the welfare of the Northern cause.
I have a letter from Miss Estlin yesterday
she is at home at Durham Avenue
is quite well. Miss Cobbe who
cares so much for the world
is writing on their trial. She is
an intimate friend of
his & writes to her frequently. You
know Miss C. is bringing out a complete
edition of Parkman's works & the works
certainly have produced a much
more readable & accurate account of his life
than those that have been
published. Yours ever truly
Richd D Webb.

Ms. A. 9. 2. 81. 21